Timeline of the Virginia Consumer Data Protection Act (VCDPA)

Absent any federal comprehensive consumer data protections, many states are beginning to develop their own protections.

Prior to Virginia, California was the only state to successfully develop and approve consumer data protections.

VCDPA Timeline

(January 2020) - The process began with a consumer data protection bill that was carried over to the 2021 session by the House Communications, Technology and Innovation Committee.

(March 2020) – In deciding how to handle the legislation carried over during the 2020 session, Chairman Hayes decided the issue needed to be studied and created the Data Protection and Privacy Advisory Committee of the Joint Commission on Technology and Science.

March 2020 – November 2020

COVID-19

Special Session 2020-1

November 2020

The first meeting of the Data Protection and Privacy Advisory Committee convened and identified the following guiding principles for developing data protection legislation:

Right to access data

Right to correction

Right to deletion

Right to opt out of collection and use of data for certain purposes

Right to portability

Protections for data minimization, detention, and non-discrimination

(November 2020) Members of the Data Protection and Privacy Advisory Committee met along with members of JCOTS to hear from industry experts in consideration for other privacy laws – national and international consumer data protection laws.

(November 2020) The decision was made to build a framework for a draft bill from the consumer data protection legislation being considered in Washington State.

(December 2020) Chairman Hayes and Senator Marsden began working with Legislative Services staff and meeting with stakeholders to begin building Virginia's consumer data protection law.

Virginia Consumer Data Protection Act

January 2021

The Consumer Data Protection Act, House Bill 2307 (Hayes) and Senate Bill 1392 (Marsden), was introduced.

March 2021

The Consumer Data Protection Act was approved by Governor Northam.